



## John D. Childs

Chair, Board of Managers  
Jane Coffin Childs Fund



# Funding Science for Generations

The Jane Coffin Childs Fund is unwavering in its mission to drive the future of scientific discovery for the betterment of humanity.

**Cancer's mark on our family runs deep.** Our journey began in 1936 with the passing of my great-grandmother, Jane Coffin Childs, from breast cancer. Determined to make a difference, her husband, Starling Winston Childs, their children, and her sister, Alice S. Coffin, established the Jane Coffin Childs Memorial Fund for Medical Research (JCC) in 1937. With an unprecedented \$3.5 million endowment—the largest contribution for cancer research in U.S. history at the time—JCC set out with a bold mission to accelerate research into cancer's causes and treatments. *The New York Times* hailed this visionary gift as the dawn of a “New Era in research possibilities.”

By the Fund's 10th anniversary, JCC had directed over \$1.3 million toward pioneering cancer research, including the creation of the JCC postdoctoral fellowship in 1944—a transformative step that would become the foundation of a robust biomedical research community.

From the outset, our Board of Managers and esteemed Board of Scientific Advisors recognized that human disease is profoundly complex and demands an integrative approach. The fight against disease requires the training of future biomedical scientists, the nurturing of collaboration, and an in-depth understanding of the cellular foundations of human health. Inspired by this founding vision, JCC now provides three years of salary support to exceptional postdoctoral fellows leading groundbreaking research into the causes, treatments, and cures of human diseases.

Over the last 87 years, we have invested over \$150 million to support nearly 1,600 fellows and grantees, including 80 members of the National Academy of Sciences and 7 Nobel laureates. Alumni of our fellowship program are now global leaders, with a collective impact of \$7.2 billion in research grants, translating every \$1 we invested into \$48 in scientific funding. Notably, nearly \$1.6 billion of these research funds have come from the National Cancer Institute, underscoring our contributions to cancer research and therapy. Projects funded by JCC have led to over 7,000 publications, and in total, the work of our alumni has produced 30,000 scientific papers—shaping our understanding of disease and creating therapies that are saving lives.

Today, JCC is at an exciting juncture, amplifying support for postdoctoral fellows, strengthening partnerships, and expanding our reach. We remain unwavering in our commitment to this critical stage in researchers' careers, where creativity and innovation thrive. Partnerships with the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and generous philanthropists magnify our impact, empowering us to support more fellows and advance groundbreaking science. These collaborations are essential to sustaining U.S. innovation in medical science and technology.

We invite you to learn more about our transformative work in our first impact report, which shares inspiring stories of our fellows' breakthroughs and illustrates how JCC is securing our scientific workforce and driving the future of discovery.

## Original Investment and Outcome

Every \$1 invested generated \$48 in additional funding in aggregate earned by JCC Fellows throughout their careers

  
**\$3.5M**  
Original gift  
in 1937

  
**\$150M**  
to 1,556 fellows  
and grants

  
**\$7.2B**  
in carry-on  
grant funding

Total amount distributed from JCC for research

## Funding over the Years

